Amendment to the Specification:

Please insert between paragraph 0026 and paragraph 0027 of the US publication No ***2007/0269331*** the following **new** paragraph:

-- A fully-dense discontinuously-reinforced titanium matrix composite (TMMC) material comprises (a) a matrix of titanium or titanium alloy as a major component, (b) ceramic and/or intermetallic hard particles dispersed in the matrix in the amount of ≤50 vol. %, and (c) complex carbide- and/or silicide particles at least partially soluble in the matrix at the sintering or forging temperatures such as $Ti_4Cr_3C_6$, Ti_3SiC_2, Cr_3C_2, Ti_3AlC_2, Ti_2AlC, Al_4C_3, Al_4SiC_4, $Al_4Si_2C_5$, Al_8SiC_7, V_2C, (Ti,V)C, VCr_2C_2, and $V_2Cr_4C_3$, dispersed in the matrix in the amount of ≤20 vol.%. The method for manufacturing TMCC is comprised of the following steps: (a) preparing a basic powdered blend containing matrix alloy or titanium powders, dispersing ceramic and/or intermetallic powders, and powders of said complex carbide- and/or silicide particles, (b) preparing the Al-V master alloy containing ≤5 wt. % of iron, (c) preparing the Al-V-Fe master alloy fine powder having a particle size of ≤20 μm, (d) mixing the basic powdered blend with the master alloy powder to obtain a chemical composition of TMCC, (e) compacting the powder mixture at room temperature, (f) sintering at the temperature which provides at least partial dissolution of dispersed powders, (g) forging at 1500-2300°F., and (h) cooling. The ceramic and/or intermetallic hard particles dispersed in the matrix are selected from the group consisting of TiC, B_4C, SiC, ZrC, TaC, WC, NbC, TiAl, Ti_3Al, $TiAl_3$, $TiAlV_2$, Al_8V_5, and $TiCr_2$. --

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application: